

Whereas crime related to methamphetamine abuse continues to increase, with 55 percent of sheriffs reporting increases in robberies and burglaries during the last year;

Whereas most illegal methamphetamine available in the United States is produced in large clandestine laboratories in Mexico and smuggled into this country;

Whereas methamphetamine labs are costly to clean up in that every pound of methamphetamine produced can yield up to 5 pounds of toxic waste, representing a public danger to adults and children;

Whereas the profile of methamphetamine users is changing, as % of the Nation's sheriffs report increased methamphetamine use by women and ½ of the Nation's sheriffs report increased use by teens;

Whereas, in surveys on the abuse of methamphetamine among teens, many of the respondents said that the drug was easy to get and believed there is little risk in trying it;

Whereas other National Association of Counties surveys have shown that methamphetamine also places significant burdens on local social service and health care resources, increasing out-of-home placements for children, sending more people to public hospital emergency rooms than any other drug, and producing an ever-growing need for methamphetamine treatment programs; and

Whereas the establishment of a National Methamphetamine Awareness month would increase awareness of methamphetamine and educate the public on effective ways to help prevent methamphetamine use at the Federal, State, and local levels: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 2007 as "National Methamphetamine Awareness Month" to increase awareness of methamphetamine abuse; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States and interested groups to observe National Methamphetamine Awareness Month with appropriate educational programs and outreach activities.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I am pleased to join with my colleague Senator GRASSLEY, as well as Senators ALEXANDER, BIDEN, BINGAMAN, BOND, CANTWELL, CORKER, CRAPO, DOMENICI, GRAHAM, KERRY, LEVIN, LINCOLN, MURKOWSKI, ROBERTS, SALAZAR, SCHUMER, SMITH, STABENOW, TESTER, and THUNE in submitting a resolution designating November 2007 as National Methamphetamine Awareness Month.

It is the sense of the Senate to increase awareness of methamphetamine and call upon the people of the U.S. to observe this month with appropriate methamphetamine educational programs and outreach activities.

Methamphetamine is devastating families and communities across the Nation.

It has been more than 1 year since enactment of the Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act. Methamphetamine lab seizures declined 42 percent nationwide last year, as a result of regulations on the sale of pseudoephedrine and ephedrine. These are the over the counter drugs which are often used in the production of methamphetamine.

But our work is not done. Methamphetamine is still the number one law enforcement problem. The National Association of Counties found that methamphetamine is the number one illegal drug problem for 47 percent of the counties in the country.

Four out of five county sheriffs report that while local methamphetamine production is down, methamphetamine abuse is not.

Methamphetamine users are changing. Three-fifths of the Nation's sheriffs report increased methamphetamine use by women. Half of the Nation's sheriffs report increased use by teens.

Surveys on methamphetamine abuse among teens show that many of the respondents said the drug was easy to get, and believed there was little risk in trying it. Methamphetamine is still far too readily available.

As a result, local social service and health care resources are stretched thin, and more and more children are being sent to foster homes.

These issues are even more apparent within tribal communities. I am very concerned that the highest rates of methamphetamine use among all ethnic groups occur within the Native American communities.

Last year, Carl Venne, Crow Tribal Chairman, testified before the Finance Committee. Chairman Venne told of the grave effects of meth on the Apsaalooka Nation. He said, "There is no entity or organization on the Crow Reservation that is exempt from the devastating destruction of Meth."

And while the regulations under the Combat Meth Act have stifled meth production here in the United States, the production has shifted to keep up with the ever-growing demand. Most illegal methamphetamine available in the U.S. is produced in large clandestine laboratories in Mexico and smuggled into this country. We must do more to break the meth supply chain at the border.

We must do more to end the demand for this devastating drug. We need to redouble our efforts and intensify methamphetamine education, prevention, and treatment. In this way, we show our resolve to bring to an end the problem of meth.

Thus, I stand here today, asking my fellow colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join us in support of designating November 2007 National Methamphetamine Awareness Month.

Conducting educational programs and outreach activities in November will give us an opportunity to talk with folks at home and focus on ways to fight methamphetamine across America.

I urge everyone to join us in support of this legislation.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3499. Mr. WYDEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3500. Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2419, *supra*.

SA 3501. Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. CRAIG, and Mr. CRAPO) submitted an amend-

ment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3499. Mr. WYDEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 9005 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (as amended by section 9001) and insert the following: **"SEC. 9005. BIOREFINERY AND REPOWERING ASSISTANCE.**

"(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to assist in the development of new or emerging technologies for the use of renewable biomass or other sources of renewable energy—

"(1) to develop advanced biofuels;

"(2) to increase the energy independence of the United States by promoting the replacement of energy generated from fossil fuels with energy generated from a renewable energy source;

"(3) to promote resource conservation, public health, and the environment;

"(4) to diversify markets for raw agricultural and forestry products, and agriculture waste material; and

"(5) to create jobs and enhance the economic development of the rural economy.

"(b) DEFINITION OF REPOWER.—In this section, the term 'repower' means to substitute the production of heat or power from a fossil fuel source with heat or power from sources of renewable energy.

"(c) ASSISTANCE.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make available to eligible entities described in subsection (d)—

"(A) grants to assist in paying the costs of—

"(i) development and construction of pilot- and demonstration-scale biorefineries intended to demonstrate the commercial viability of 1 or more processes for converting renewable biomass to advanced biofuels;

"(ii) repowering a biomass conversion facility, power plant, or manufacturing facility, in whole or in part;

"(iii) conducting a study to determine the feasibility of repowering a biomass conversion facility, power plant, or manufacturing facility, in whole or in part; or

"(iv) development and demonstration of harvesting, transportation, preprocessing, and storage technologies relating to the production and use of renewable biomass feedstocks in biorefineries and repowering projects; and

"(B) guarantees for loans made to fund—

"(i) the development and construction of commercial-scale biorefineries; or

"(ii) the repowering of a biomass conversion facility, power plant, or manufacturing facility, in whole or in part.

"(2) PREFERENCE.—In selecting projects to receive grants and loan guarantees under this section, the Secretary shall give preference to projects that receive or will receive financial support from the State in which the project is carried out.

"(d) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An eligible entity under this section is—

"(1) an individual;

"(2) a corporation;

"(3) a farm cooperative;

"(4) a rural electric cooperative or public power entity;

"(5) an association of agricultural producers;